

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus are provided for reducing or eliminating sliver formation during aluminum sheet trimming operations. By controlling parameters such as trimming angle and cutting blade clearance, aluminum sheet can be trimmed while substantially eliminating the formation of slivers which damage the surface finish of the part. Cutting angle and clearance are preferably selected such that a wide range of cutting blade sharpnesses produce satisfactory cuts. The method and apparatus are particularly useful for trimming aluminum autobody sheet.